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THE TIMES-DISPATCH
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WHOLE NUMBER 18,070.

RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1909.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY—Rain.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

BOARD ORDERS FULL INQUIRY

City Collector Must Explain Delay in Returning Checks.

HOBSON CHARGES UNDUE INFLUENCE

Declares Pressure Was Brought to Bear on Finance Committee to Minimize Delinquency. Report Says Many Police Court Fines Are Never Paid.

AFTER hearing the report of Special Accountant Crenshaw on his examination of the office of City Collector Frank W. Cunningham, the Board of Aldermen by a unanimous vote last night adopted a joint resolution providing for an investigation to be conducted by a special committee of three Councilmen and two Aldermen. The report of the special accountant, which had been first submitted to the Common Council, was forwarded to the Board for information.

Immediately on its reading, Mr. Moncure moved that the report be referred to a special committee, saying that without the further information provided by the outcome of such an inquiry, he was not ready to vote on the matter. Mr. Whitte took the ground that it was the duty of the Finance Committee to look into the allegations rather than have a special committee, as the Finance Committee is more familiar with the work of the City Collector's office and is in a position to ascertain all the facts. He therefore moved that the report be referred to the Finance Committee for investigation and report.

Mr. Hobson disagreed, taking the ground that the Finance Committee had already passed on the matter, and while the report of the accountant showed that certain money had been held back, yet the Finance Committee had stated that it was "unanimously of the opinion that there had been no intentional wrong-doing."

"It is evident," said Mr. Hobson, "that there is some one who has sufficient influence with the Finance Committee to keep it from doing what it thinks is right, and they have toned down their report by saying that there was no intentional wrong-doing. I had a resolution in mind to refer this whole matter to the Mayor for such action as the charter provides, but I am willing to join Mr. Moncure in asking an investigation. Either the Collector is in the right, and if so the citizens ought to know it, or he is in the wrong and should be put out of office."

Defends Finance Committee. Mr. Whitte rose to defend the Finance Committee, saying that he did not believe that any man had influence enough to keep the Finance Committee from doing what it thought was right. He said that the Finance Committee would not do its duty, but merely that pressure was being brought to bear on that body to maintain the status quo. Mr. Hobson, replying to Mr. Whitte, said that no one had the power to influence that body against its judgment; that the Finance Committee had done its duty, and that any special committee directly charged with the duty of an investigation.

The Whitte substitute to refer the paper back to the Finance Committee was lost, and the Moncure resolution for an investigation of the collector's office was adopted without dissent.

The question was raised as to whether the whole report of the Special Accountant, or merely the section making the charge that \$2,000 had been withheld from April to September, should be referred to the special committee.

Fines Not Collected. After debate, it was decided to refer the whole paper to the investigators, as, although the inquiry was primarily over the matter of the collector's office, yet there are other matters in the report which are deemed sufficient to demand an investigation, such as the delays in the proceedings to collect license taxes in the Police Court, and the assertion that little or no effort is being made to collect certain of the taxes or of the fines imposed by the Police Justice.

From the interest and attendance of members of the lower branch last night, there seems no doubt, but that that body will be very busy in entering the investigation into the affairs of the City Collector's office.

On recommendation of the Finance Committee the Board appropriated \$17.50 for purchase of additional land for Taylor's Hill Park and \$2,500 for grounds and buildings expenses. An ordinance fixing the pay of the police probation officer at \$1,100 a year was adopted after being amended to take effect January 1. An ordinance to provide street car tickets for the City Coroner was rejected. The recommendation of the Grounds and Buildings Committee to appropriate \$3,250 for emergency repairs to the jail was forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Grain Grant Report. From the Common Council came the resolution recommended by the Street Committee after an investigation of the theft of grain from the city staples. The resolution instructs the Auditor not to pay any pending claim of Alvey Brothers, grain contractors, and the City Attorney is instructed to take steps to recover the amounts stolen, less the balance now claimed. Mr. Elliott moved that the report be recommended to the Street Committee for adjustment or compromise of the claim, in the ground that many of the loads had been delivered by drivers other than Jim Robinson, and that there had been no evidence that all of the drivers weighed in piling stones with the

ROBBERS HOLD UP DRUG STORE MAN

One Stuck Gun in His Face While Other Rifled Cash Drawer.

TOOK KEYS, THEN HURRIED AWAY

Druggist at Lomardy and Broad Forced to Submit to Smiling Young Men Who Threatened to Hang Him—Work Like That of Amateurs.

WHILE he was detained behind his prescription desk at the point of a revolver held in the hand of a very calm and self-possessed young man, L. T. Wright, proprietor of the drug store at the corner of Lomardy and Broad Streets, early last night stood by and listened as the bandit's comrade went through the cash register, emptying it of all the cash it contained—about \$25 or \$30—and probably several checks.

"Now hand me over your keys," said the young robber, as his partner concluded. "If we had a rope we would hang you." With this parting salutation the two fled, taking a north-easterly course, and Mr. Wright stood alone in his store.

Yelled Wildly for Help. He ran to his rear door to go out and call for help, but found that locked. Then he ran round the counter to the front door and yelled up to the engine-house just above, calling "robbers, robbers, catch the robbers." The firemen rushed down, and others were attracted by the cries, but the bandits had gone, without leaving a single trace behind them.

Mr. Wright, having just sent his soda water clerk out on an errand, was standing behind his counter when the two young men entered. "Give us a dozen two-grain capsules of quinine," said the leader, and "be sure to make them fresh." The proprietor thought it a strange request, but he promptly replied that he would prepare the capsules in a few minutes, and walked back to his prescription room in the rear.

As usual in most drug stores, the prescription room is cut off from the main part of the store, and a curtain hangs over the entrance from behind the counter. He had just finished making two capsules when he heard the bell of the cash register ring. Excited by the noise, he ran from the prescription room and behind the main counter and saw one of the men fumbling with the register.

Looked Into Revolver. "Hold up your hands," shouted the other, covering him with a revolver. The robber stood directly beneath the electric light, and the blue steel gun was aimed menacingly at the head of Mr. Wright. He stood dazed for a moment, but walked back at the command of the armed bandit. He was forced to take a stand at the far end of the prescription room while the robber, with his revolver still leveled at the proprietor's head, stood at the other end near the exit into the main part of the store. He had a pleasant face and wore a pleasant smile.

But the revolver never wavered. "I wonder if he will shoot me," Mr. Wright says he thought as he looked down into the muzzle of the gun, but he decided to take no chances. He had no weapons, and he was afraid to move. He was white and trembled, and he knew there was no one in the other part of the building. It really took but a few moments to pilfer the cash drawer, but it seemed an hour to Mr. Wright.

Both stood silent, each looking at the other and watching for a move. At the signal from the man working at the cash drawer the other backed out, asking for the keys as he did, and making the threat that they would hang Mr. Wright if they but had a rope.

Tossed Keys to Robbers. Mr. Wright handed the keys, and then they ran through the front door. They crossed over Broad Street, and several young men who were coming up, but without suspicion of what had just happened, saw the two figures disappear in the darkness. They thought they were two small boys running away after playing a practical joke on some one.

In a few minutes the alarm had spread, and the store was soon filled with an eager and curious crowd. Mr. Wright, white and trembling, told of the robbery, and the police were notified. Sergeant Bailey arrived and investigated the matter, but Mr. Wright could give no clues, and was able to give only a meagre description of the two men. They were both young, dressed in dark clothes and wore dark hats. Neither wore a mask.

The two men appeared perfectly calm about their hold-up business and took their time. It is probable that they watched and saw the clerk go out and then decided to enter.

Like Amateur Work. Because of the fact that the drug store is on one of the main streets, and is surrounded by a wide radius of settlement in a neighborhood well lighted, Sergeant Bailey thinks that the hold-up was the work of some readers of dime novels. He does not believe that professionals would have taken such a time and place, or that they would have exposed themselves to the risk incidental to working where the chances were that they would be discovered before they could escape. Nor would professionals, he thinks, have asked for useless keys or have made a useless threat before taking their departure. But the detective will work on the case, and he hopes to be able to land the culprits.

Mr. Wright was very much excited at the time, and was unable to get a good description of the men. He had never seen them before. Nothing else was touched, and the robbers left without their pills.

Washington Sunset Route to California. Tourist sleeping car four times weekly without change. Personally conducted. Berth, \$5.00, 230 East Main Street.

PRESIDENT TAFT ENDS GREAT JOURNEY GREETING PEOPLE OF RICHMOND TO-DAY

Makes Final Stop Before Reaching White House To-Night.

THOUSANDS TO DO HIM HONOR

Great Parade, Luncheon and Address at City Auditorium Principal Events on Program. To Review Troops and Cadets at Lee Monument—Last Busy Day.

Taft-Day Program.

President arrives 5:10 A. M.
Leaves Byrd Street Station for Mansion, 8 A. M.
Leaves Mansion for House of Delegates, 9:25 A. M.
Speaks to Times-Dispatch Correspondents and Virginia Press Association, 10 A. M.
Speaks to colored people in Corporation Commission courtroom, 10:30 A. M.
Starts from Capitol ahead of parade, 11 A. M.
Route of parade from Capitol Grace to Fifth, down Fifth to Franklin, out Franklin to Lee Monument on Monument Avenue.
Reviews parade at Lee Monument, 12:30 P. M.
Luncheon at Jefferson, 1:30 P. M.
Leaves Jefferson for City Auditorium, 3 P. M.
Address at Auditorium, 3:30 P. M.
Leaves Auditorium for Main Street Station, 4:30 P. M.
Arrives Richmond, 5:15 P. M.
Arrives Washington, 8:35 P. M.

EAGER for a glimpse of home after speaking and smiling his jovial way through practically every part of the nation, President William Howard Taft will halt almost within the shadow of the White House to greet and be greeted by the people of Richmond to-day.

From the moment he steps out of his private car, the Mayflower, at 8 o'clock this morning, until he goes aboard again this afternoon, he will be the personal property of this hospitable old city. Its citizens will cheer him along the line of march and again at the City Auditorium, where he will deliver the final address on his remarkable journey which has extended over 13,000 miles within the past fifty-five days. Weary, but happy, he will sleep to-night under his own roof in the national capital.

Even a Long Trip Here. Reversing the schedule adopted by his predecessor four years ago, President Taft really ends his Southern trip in Richmond, where Roosevelt began his whirlwind tour.

And while those who have planned for his entertainment realize that one of greater brain and nerve might have been whipped by a continual round of festivity and feasting from Boston to the Golden Gate and back, they have worked to put the crowning touch upon a tour which stands unique.

Here in the capital of what once was hostile ground—where another flag proudly waved from that same historic structure which is ablaze with Stars and Stripes to-day—the President will find in the warm and cordial welcome of Virginia the assurance that while remembering the valor of men and other days, this great nation is reunited now and glad.

Only the elements can mar the program prepared with such care for the President's visit. While ideal weather conditions are not promised, there is more than the half-way hope that a rift in the clouds will bring a flood of sunshine to make the entertainment perfect and complete.

Although the Mayflower will arrive here on the Atlantic Coast Line train from Wilmington, N. C., at 5:10 o'clock, President Taft will not be disturbed for several hours. The reception committee will meet him at the Byrd Street Station at 8 o'clock to escort him in a motor car to the Executive Mansion, where he will take breakfast with Governor Swanson. Captain A. W. Butt, his aid, will accompany him to the mansion, where he will move to the Jefferson Hotel for breakfast in charge of a special committee.

As the guest of the Governor, President Taft will be entertained informally, leaving the mansion at 6:55 o'clock for the House of Delegates, where he will deliver an address to the Times-Dispatch Correspondents' Association and its guests, the Virginia State Press Association.

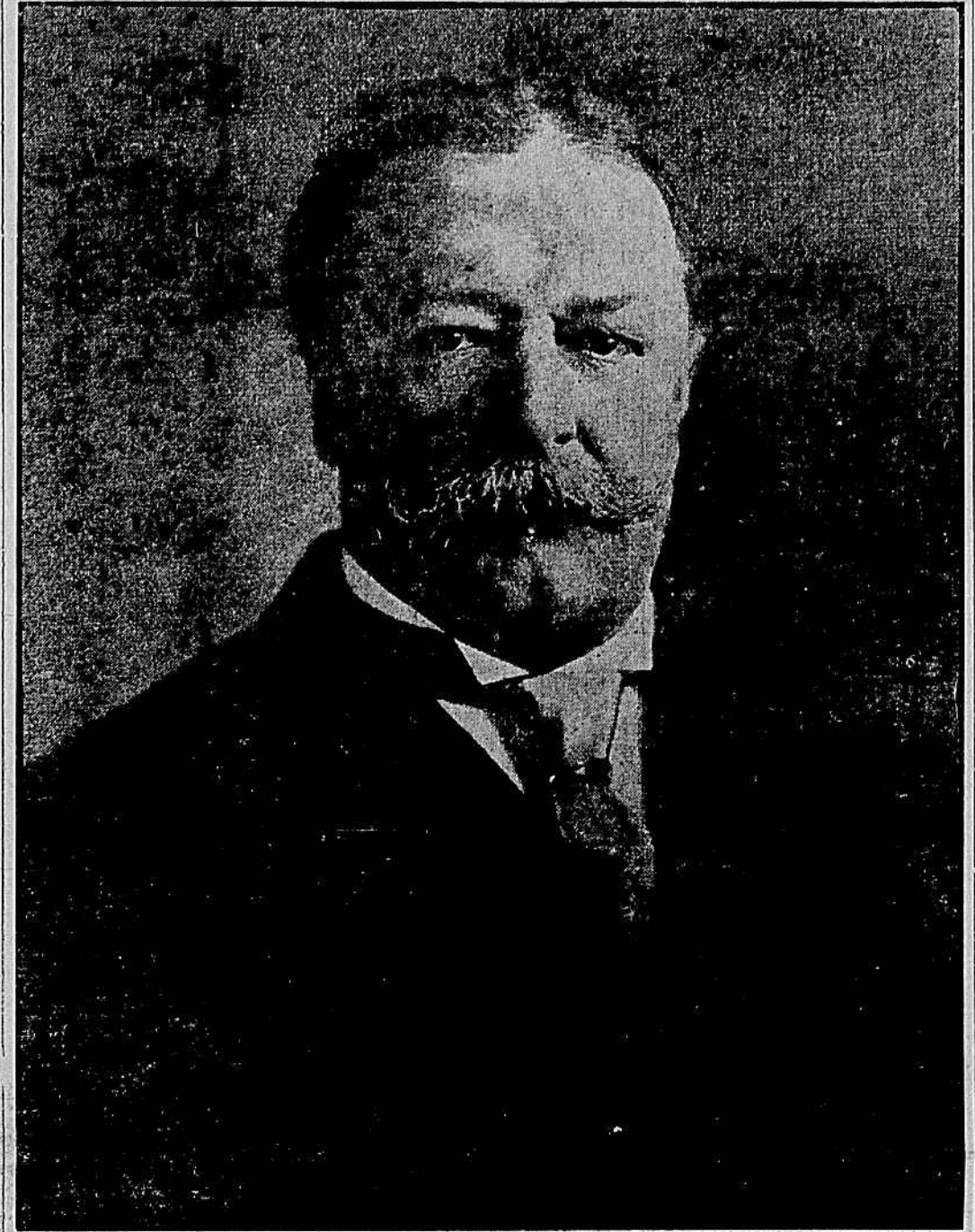
This over, the President will walk through the corridors to the courtroom of the Corporation Commission, where he will speak briefly to twenty-five representative colored citizens of Richmond.

Meantime the parade will be forming in Capitol Square. The party from the Jefferson will come down in motor cars and take their positions to move with the military, which will be led by Chief Marshal A. S. Buford, Jr. By 11 o'clock the parade will move to Lee Monument, where the President will be reviewed by the President, standing in his motor car. The line of march will be through Grace Street to Fifth, down Fifth to Franklin, and out Franklin to Monument Avenue.

After the review, if time permits, the President may spin around town, going later to the Jefferson Hotel for luncheon at 1:30. The luncheon will be without oratorical frills, only a toast being proposed to the city guests, to which he may respond in half a dozen words.

The President will have a brief resting period in a suite of rooms at the Jefferson while the luncheon guests are moving toward the City Auditorium. He is scheduled to leave the party will leave the auditorium for the Main Street Station, where the

(Continued on Page 4—Column 1.)



PRESIDENT TAFT.

PLEADINGS OF HYPNOTIST FAIL TO BRING LIFE BACK TO DEAD BOY

Heart Refuses to Resume Its Beatings Even at Repeated Commands.

EFFORT FINALLY ABANDONED

Then Doctors, With Their Knives, Determine Cause of Victim's Death.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEW YORK, November 9.—In a little roughly-furnished room in the basement of the Somerset county Hospital at Somerville, N. J., this evening just after dark, an attempt was made by the methods of the hypnotist to resuscitate the hypnotic subject, Robert Simpson, who had apparently died while under hypnotic influence the evening before.

On some rough planks raised to a table's height lay the body—living or dead—of the man Simpson, whose means of livelihood had been as a subject for the showman-hypnotist, Arthur Everett. A black cloth covered the body, and the dimly lit hole of a room was partly illuminated by a swinging electric lamp.

Everton, in jail and charged with homicide, persisted in his declaration that Simpson was not dead, but was yet in a cataleptic condition, in which the hypnotist had placed him for exhibition purposes. Everton had begged the authorities that his friend and sometime instructor, W. E. Davenport, secretary of the Newark postmaster, be sent for and be allowed to attempt to revive Simpson. This earnest request of the hypnotist the authorities, after consultation, decided to grant.

Just as the sun was sinking, Davenport arrived in Somerville, accompanied by the manager of the Arcades, an amusement place in Newark, where Everton had performed last week.

At the hospital they were met by W. M. Long, county physician, and three members of the hospital staff—Drs. Hecht, Stilwell and Halstead. Davenport explained to them that he had long been a student of hypnotics, that he had practiced it only as a student, and that he had come in response to a pupil's cry for help, and would, with the doctors' permission, attempt to revive the subject, Simpson. Dr. Long, for himself and the members of the staff, said that they not only had agreed that the experiment should be permitted, but that it might be, had postponed the autopsy. In their opinion Everton's hypnotic subject was dead.

Besides the physicians there crowded into the room for the women nurses of the hospital in their white caps and nurse uniforms the Arcade manager, Mrs. Everton, a reporter for The

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DEFALCATION MAY REACH \$2,000,000

Warriner's Embezzlement Might Set New High Record in Such Cases.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, November 9.—Apparently well founded reports tonight suggest that the shortage of Charles L. Warriner, former local treasurer of the Big Four Railroad Company, who is now accused of embezzling \$643,000, may now exceed \$2,000,000. These reports are supported by the fact that the rail officers caused Warriner's arrest on a charge of embezzling \$54,500, and later admitted that the amount would be at least \$100,000. When that sum was raised to more than half a million dollars rare more began to circulate that the total embezzlement might reach a figure which would set a new record in such cases.

Whatever may be the culpability of persons alleged by Warriner to have blackmailed him for part of the loot, it appears that as far as the railroad officers are concerned, they have no intention of proceeding against others than the defaulting treasurer. General Counsel Hackney to-day declared that he possessed no facts that would authorize prosecution of any one save Warriner.

"I believe Mr. Warriner's statement," said Hackney, "that he was blackmailed, but we have only his word for it, and we cannot act on that. That is for the State authorities to do if they choose."

The facts in the case have been placed in the hands of County Prosecutor Hunt, who will place them before a grand jury next week.

Asked how one man could juggle the accounts of a great corporation for so long a time without detection, a high railroad official to-day said that a big "shake-up" was about to take place in the officers of the Big Four, and that an entirely new system of conducting the finances would be installed.

WILL NAME TAFT MEN FOR OFFICES

General Shake-Up in Virginia Predicted by Prominent Republicans.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WASHINGTON, D. C., November 9.—According to several prominent Virginia Republicans here to-day there will be a big shake-up among the present Virginia Federal officeholders when the offices in that State are filled by the Taft administration. Many of the old Roosevelt appointees will go, and Taft men will be named to fill their places.

Morgan Treat, United States marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia, is slated to go, said one of the Republicans, and Harry Smithers, of Cape Charles, will land the job. Judge L. L. Lewis, United States District Attorney for the same section will not be reappointed, and D. Lawrence Groner, of Norfolk, who ran against Harry Maynard for Congress, will fall heir to the plum.

On the Western side of the State there is a big fight for S. Brown Allen's job, the marshaling. The Ninth District is clamoring for the position, and Representative Slomp faces a disagreeable task in selecting a man for it. Allen, however, is likely to put one over on Slomp. He was shrewd enough in days gone by to jump in the Taft band wagon and line up the Tenth District for the present occupant of the White House when delegates were chosen to the Chicago convention, while Slomp et al. stood for untried delegates.

Hitchcock, the dispenser of the Federal patronage, hasn't forgotten Allen, and he is said to favor his reappointment, despite what the Virginia leaders think of the State. He says nobody knows what "equally as good" for Allen, so he may satisfy the hungry in the Ninth.

Down in Newport News, J. E. B. Stuart, Jr., the collector of customs, will fall of reappointment. At least that's the intimation. The Republicans are making a hard fight on Stuart, and there are enough men aspiring for the job to fill all other Federal offices in the State. Who will get it no one can venture a prediction.

Clayton Hughes appears to have a hold on his job as collector of customs of Norfolk, but the one prominent Republican says he does not know what will happen when the administration begins to fill the Federal offices in the State. He says nobody knows what Postmaster-General Hitchcock has up his sleeve, and he is not taking many people into his confidence.

WELL FAGGED OUT AND GLAD TRAVELS ARE ALMOST OVER

But Taft Would Not Take Worlds for Experience.

MADE HONORARY TARHEEL FOR LIFE

Thousands of Carolinians Greet President at Wilmington, Where Memorable Day Is Spent Before His Departure for Richmond—Entertained Lavishly.

WILMINGTON, N. C., November 9.—His 13,000-mile journey through thirty-three States and Territories, all but concluded, President Taft is speeding to-night toward Richmond, where he will stop to-morrow until late afternoon, leaving then for Washington to spend the night at home in the White House. President Taft has had a wonderfully good time on his long trip, has enjoyed meeting the thousands upon thousands of people of the East, the North, the West and the South, would probably not take work for his experience, but is pretty well fagged out at last, and is glad that his travels so soon are to be over.

Mr. Taft has given up all idea of visiting the Isthmus of Panama this winter, and will make no more long trips of any sort until next summer, when he hopes to visit Alaska. He will spend the Christmas holidays in the White House with his family gathered around him. The President is especially glad in getting home to know that Mrs. Taft is so much better. The great improvement which began at Beverly during the summer has continued rapidly, and complete recovery from the nervous breakdown of last spring is certain in the very near future.

During his fifty-six days on the road, President Taft has not let the setting of a sun go by without sending Mrs. Taft a telegram. He has liberally interspersed the daily messages by wire with long letters detailing the most minute happenings of his eventful trip, and in this way has actually written a complete history of his journeyings.

The President's day in Wilmington called out a great display of enthusiasm on the part of the residents of the Old North State who came from all sections of the Commonwealth to participate in his welcome. In many ways the celebration of the President's visit here was one of the most significant of his trip. The welcome, the efforts to make his stay a pleasant memory, and the painstaking care with which the city was decorated with bunting and young men, the long line of the President's motorcade, the day, Governor W. W. Kitchen extended the formal welcome of the State in an address which bristled with the patriotism of the South, and which embodied the President's most glowing tribute to the State.

From the moment the President rolled in, he was surrounded by a throng of well-wishers, and he was met by a review before 1,500 school children, arranged in a living flag. He stopped several minutes to listen to their cheers and songs, and then proceeded to another section of the city, where he reviewed the colored children and made them a little address.

Boarding the revenue cutter Seminole at 10:30 o'clock with a committee of fifty or more citizens as an escort, the President was taken for a sail of twenty-five miles down the waterway and returned.

Arriving here before daylight this morning, the President slept until nearly 8 o'clock, when he went out to the beautiful home of the late James Sprunt, one of the greatest exporters of cotton in all the South, where a Southern home breakfast was served. George Washington and Daniel Webster had known the hospitality of the same splendid mansion. The breakfast, which had been made into a grape arbor. At the end of the meal, Mayor MacRae, of Wilmington, voiced the welcome to the city and created Mr. Taft an honorary citizen of the city.

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(Continued on Page 4—Column 2.)